

They laugh at our play.
And soon they all say.
Such such were the joys.
When we all girls & boys.
In our youth time were seen,
On the Echoing Green.

Till the little ones weary
No more can be merry
The sun does descend,
And our sports have an end:
Round the laps of their mothers,
Merry sisters and brothers,
Like birds in their nest,
Are ready for rest:
And sport no more seen,
On the darkening Green.



On Another's Sorrow

Can I see another's woe,
And not be in sorrow too?
Can I see another's grief,
And not seek for kind relief?

Can I see a falling tear,
And not feel my sorrows share,
Can a father see his child,
Weep, nor be with sorrow fill'd.

Can a mother sit and hear,
An infant groan an infant fear,
No no never can it be,
Never never can it be.

And can he who smiles on all
Hear the wren with sorrows small,
Hear the small birds grief & care,
Hear the woes that infants bear.

And not sit beside the nest
Pouring pity in their breast,
And not sit the cradle near,
Weeping tear an infant's tear.

And not sit both night & day,
Wiping all our tears away,
O no never can it be,
Never never can it be.

He doth give his joy to all,
He becomes an infant small,
He becomes a mass of woe,
He doth feel the sorrow too.

Think not thou canst sigh a sigh,
And thy maker is not by,
Think not thou canst weep a tear,
And thy maker is not near.

O he gives to us his joy,
But our grief he may destroy,
Till our grief is fled & gone,
He doth sit by us and moan.